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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/053,826	01/18/2002	Jack H. Chang	CCI-006	9748

22504 7590 08/01/2005

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EXAMINER
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VU, THONG H

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2142

DATE MAILED: 08/01/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/053,826

Applicant(s)

CHANG ET AL.

Examiner

Thong H. Vu

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 01 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☐ Claim(s) 22-31 and 52-70 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) 22-31 and 52-70 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date \_\_\_\_\_
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)  
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

PD

1. Claims 22-31,52-70 are pending. Claims 62,63,70 have been amended.
2. The new abstract is recorded.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

3. Claim 62 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

a. It was unclear that an information source outside the communication network means. Examiner assumed it's an external network.

b. It was unclear what the first platform (one of the plurality of messaging platforms) means any significant in comparison to the others. Examiner considers as a common platform.

***Response to Arguments***

4. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 22-31,52-70 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

Claims 22-26,52-56,70 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Khoyi et al [Khoyi 5,261,080].

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5. As per claim 52, Khoyi discloses a system for delivering information to a subscriber on a messaging system the system comprising:

a messaging platform having means for receiving a mailbox ID (i.e.: mailbox name) and service information from a subscriber and means for requesting from a master platform information (i.e.: host server) corresponding to said service information, said master platform having means for communicating with an information source (i.e.: database) , said means for communicating responsive to said means for requesting by requesting information corresponding to said service information from said information source [Khoyi, the host connected to the workstation, database, col 22 lines 29-60; mailbox name, col 34 lines 35];

wherein said master platform is configured to responds to any information received from said information source by sending said information to said messaging platform [Khoyi, data exchange means, col 85 lines 35-45]; and

wherein said messaging platform is configured to converts said information to have a delivery format corresponding to a delivery format selected by said subscriber [Khoyi, data conversion routines, selected data format, col 49 lines 7-37];

said messaging platform having means for providing said information in said delivery format to said subscriber [Khoyi, private exchange formats, col 53 lines 38-63] when said subscriber accesses a mailbox corresponding to said mailbox ID [Khoyi, mailbox name, col 34 lines 35].

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6. As per claim 53, Khoyi discloses said service information includes an information type, and a delivery format [Khoyi, type and format, col 4 lines 6-24].

7. As per claim 54, Khoyi discloses said delivery format includes a voice delivery format [Khoyi, sound format, col 52 lines 27-34].

8. As per claim 55, Khoyi discloses said delivery format includes an email format [Khoyi, text format, col 51 line 67-col 52 line 5].

9. As per claim 56, Khoyi discloses said delivery format includes a fax format [Khoyi, graphic or picture format, col 52 lines 6-21].

10. As per claim 22, Khoyi discloses A method for providing information to a subscriber on a messaging system, the method comprising:

the steps of providing a mailbox ID and service information to a messaging platform, said mailbox ID corresponding to a subscriber serviced by said messaging platform and said service information including an information type, a delivery period, and a delivery format [Khoyi, the host connected to the workstation, database, col 22 lines 29-60; mailbox name, col 34 lines 35; the time limit expires, col 66 line 2];

sending a request to a master platform in response to said service information, said master platform responding to said request by requesting information from an

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information source, said information corresponding to said service information [Khoyi, the exchange source and destination data formats, col 51 lines 1-8];

sending information received from said information source to said messaging platform [Khoyi, source and destination data formats, col 51 lines 1-8];

converting information received from said information source into a delivery format corresponding to said delivery format selected in said step of providing service information [Khoyi, convert in, convert out, col 33 lines 57-67; data conversion routines, selected data format, col 49 lines 7-37]; and

providing said information to a subscriber when said subscriber accesses a mailbox corresponding to said mailbox ID [Khoyi, mailbox name, col 34 lines 35].

11. As per claim 23, Khoyi discloses maintaining a master profile table, said master profile table having a messaging platform profile for each messaging platform established on the messaging network, said messaging platform profile including a host ID, an area of operation, an operation schedule, and a token pool [Khoyi, resource ID, col 26 lines 11; Object manager ID, col 26 line 45; object manager table, col 35 lines 25].

12. As per claim 24, Khoyi discloses said delivery format includes a fax delivery format [Khoyi, graphic or picture format, col 52 lines 6-21].

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13. As per claim 25, Khoyi discloses said delivery format includes a voice delivery format [Khoyi, sound format, col 52 lines 27-34].

14. As per claim 26, Khoyi discloses said delivery format includes an email format [Khoyi, text format, col 51 line 67-col 52 line 5].

15. As per claim 31, Khoyi discloses said master platform converts said information received from said information source into an email format and sends said email formatted information to a mailbox supported by a messaging platform that corresponds to said mailbox ID, if an email format has been chosen as said delivery format [Khoyi, mailbox name, col 34 lines 35; selected data format, col 49 lines 7-37].

16. As per claim 62, Khoyi discloses A messaging network, comprising  
a plurality of messaging platforms coupled to a communication network, each of the plurality of messaging platforms communicating with the others of the plurality of messaging platforms via the communication network [Khoyi, the host connected to the workstation, database, col 22 lines 29-60];

a user messaging device coupled to a first of the plurality of messaging platforms, the user messaging device being configured to transmit a mailbox ID and service information to the first of the plurality of messaging platforms with the first of the plurality of messaging platforms being configured to receive the mailbox ID and service

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information and to generate a request message in response thereto [Khoyi, mailbox name, col 34 lines 35];

a master platform coupled to the communication network and configured to receive the request message from the first of the plurality of messaging platforms, the request message including a request for information corresponding to the service information [Khoyi, the exchange source and destination data formats, col 51 lines 1-8]; and

an information source outside the communication network coupled to the master platform and configured to receive the request for information corresponding to the service information and to respond to the request with a response message, the master platform further configured to receive the response message and to transmit the response message to the first of the plurality of messaging platforms [Khoyi, foreign data format, col 49 lines 7-27].

17. As per claim 63, Khoyi discloses the first of the plurality of messaging platforms is further configured to process the information in the information source response message to have a delivery format corresponding to a delivery format selected by a subscriber [Khoyi, selected data format, col 49 lines 7-37].

18. As per claim 64, Khoyi discloses the first of the plurality of messaging platforms is further configured to respond to subscriber access of a mailbox corresponding to the mailbox ID by providing the information in the information source response message to



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the subscriber in the selected delivery format [Khoyi, mailbox name, col 34 lines 35; selected data format, col 49 lines 7-37].

19. As per claim 65, Khoyi discloses the information in the information source response message delivered to the subscriber is multimedia information [Khoyi, text, sound, and picture formats, col 51 line 67-col 52 line 34].

20. Claims 66-69 contain the similar limitations set forth of the apparatus claims 53,56-57,59 respectively. Therefore, claims 66-69 are rejected for the similar rationale set forth in claims 53,56-57,59.

21. As per claim 70, Khoyi discloses A system for delivering information to a subscriber on a messaging system, the system comprising

a master messaging computer having a communication module [Khoyi, object manager program 240, Fig 9, col 24 lines 30-43];

a messaging computer having a communication module configured to receive a mailbox ID and service information from a subscriber and to communicate with the master messaging computer communication module to request from the master messaging computer information corresponding to the service information [Khoyi, mailbox name, col 34 lines 35];

the master messaging computer communication module being further configured to communicate with an information source in response to the master messaging

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computer communication module receiving the request for information corresponding to the service information from the messaging computer communication module, the communication from the master messaging computer communication module to the information source comprising a request for information corresponding to the service information [Khoyi, the host connected to the workstation, database, col 22 lines 29-60];

wherein the master messaging computer is further configured to respond to any information received from the information source by sending the information to the messaging computer [Khoyi, the exchange source and destination data formats, col 51 lines 1-8];

wherein the messaging computer is further configured to convert the information to have a delivery format corresponding to a delivery format selected by the subscriber [Khoyi, data conversion routines, selected data format, col 49 lines 7-37]; and

wherein the messaging computer communication module is further configured to provide the information in the delivery format to the subscriber [Khoyi, private exchange formats, col 53 lines 38-63] when the subscriber accesses a mailbox corresponding to the mailbox ID [Khoyi, mailbox name, col 34 lines 35].

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 27-30,57-60 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Khoyi et al [Khoyi, 5,261,080] in view of Fuller et al [Fuller, col 5224,156].

22. As per claim 57, Khoyi discloses the system using a mailbox and user selected message format. However Khoyi does not explicitly detail "said master platform **forwards** said information received from said information source to said messaging platform only when said messaging platform has an in-operation status".

In the same endeavor, Fuller discloses a system sending and receiving electronic message (i.e.: voice, facsimile) using a mailbox number, the user selects type of notification, forwarding feature [Fuller, mailbox, col 4 lines 3-20; the forwarding feature and type of notification selected by the user, col 9 lines 3-19]

Therefore it would have been obvious to an ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to incorporate the forwarding feature as taught by Fuller into the Khoyi's apparatus in order to utilize the data exchange process. Doing so would provide an integrated system and user environment which facilitates the ability to communicate between users and data types.

23. As per claim 58, Khoyi-Fuller disclose said in-operation status is based on said operation schedule defined for said messaging platform [Khoyi, the time limit expires, col 66 line 2].

24. As per claim 61, Khoyi-Fuller disclose said master platform converts said information received from said information source into an email format and sends said

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email formatted information to a mailbox supported by a messaging platform that corresponds to said mailbox ID, if an email format has been chosen as said delivery format [Fuller converts the report information from digital format to facsimile compatible format, col 11 lines 24-35].

25. As per claim 59, Khoyi-Fuller disclose said master platform delays sending said information received from said information source to said messaging platform when said messaging platform has a non-operational status [Fuller, relay operation, col 3 lines 35-68 et seq].

26. As per claim 60, Khoyi-Fuller disclose said non-operational status is obtained when said token pool falls below a selected threshold [Khoyi, the time limit expires, col 66 line 2].

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to examiner *Thong Vu*, whose telephone number is (571)-272-3904. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Thursday from 8:00AM- 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, *Andrew Caldwell*, can be reached at (571) 272-3868. The fax number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval IPAIRI system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PMR or Public PMR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

*Thong Vu*  
*Patent Examiner*  
*Art Unit 2142*

